

Message Text

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44

ACTION EUR-12

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FM AMEMBASSY BERN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0000

INFO AMEMBASSY VIENNA

AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

AMEMBASSY HELSINKI

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

AMCONSUL MUNICH

USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS

C O N F I D E N T I A L BERN 5453

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR CSCE AU SZ

SUBJ: VIENNA MEETING OF FOUR CSCE NEUTRALS

REF: VIENNA 9816

1. SUMMARY: SWISS WHO GAVE US THEIR ACCOUNT VIENNA MEETING AGREED WITH MANY OF THE VIEWS EXPRESSED TO EMBASSY VIENNA BY AUSTRIANS ON OUTCOME (REFTEL). THEIR ACCOUNT DIFFERS IN SOME RESPECTS; E.G., ON DEGREE CONSENSUS REACHED ON HOW TO EVALUATE IMPLEMENTATION BASKET III, ON LEVEL OF PARTICIPANTS SECOND PLENARY, ON THEIR VIEWS ON SOVIET PROPOSALS FOR PAN-EUROPEAN CONFERENCES, ON PROPOSALS FOR EXTENSION COVERAGE NOTIFICATIONS UNDER BASKET I TO TROOP MOVEMENTS AND ON FOLLOW-UP; SWISS SAY THEY DO NOT FAVOR INSTITUTIONAL FRAMEWORK. END SUMMARY.

2. DCM AND POL/ECON COUNS CALLED ON AMB HEGNER AND HANSJORG RENK ON NOV 30 TO RECEIVE THEIR IMPRESSIONS OF VIENNA MEETING.

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3. OUR SOURCES SAID THAT THERE WAS A CONSENSUS OF VIEWS ON EXTENT TO WHICH FINAL ACT WAS BEING IMPLEMENTED BY THE COMMUNIST COUNTRIES. THEY DESCRIBED THIS CONSENSUS AS FOLLOWS: SOME PROGRESS ON BASKET I, LESS ON BASKET II AND VERY LITTLE ON BASKET III.

4. ON BELGRADE MEETINGS, THEY SAID THAT BASED ON WHAT THEY HAD HEARD THERE WOULD BE CRITICISM BY NEUTRALS OF THE LACK OF PROGRESS ON MBFR BUT NO ATTEMPT BY THEM TO LINK MBFR TO CSCE BEYOND STATING THAT CHANGES IN MILITARY SITUATION WOULD HAVE AN EFFECT ON CSCE.

5. THEY SAID NEUTRALS HAD TAKEN NOTE OF COMMUNIST COUNTRIES DESIRE EMPHASIZE POSITIVE RESULTS CSCE, AND WERE AGREED THAT THIS WOULD NOT BE SUFFICIENT. THEY SAID QUESTION OF EVALUATION IS CONSIDERED BY NEUTRALS TO BE ONE OF MOST DIFFICULT PROBLEMS FOR BELGRADE. NEUTRALS DISCUSSED POSSIBILITY EACH COUNTRY WOULD MAKE STATEMENT, FOLLOWED BY MORE DETAILED ANALYSIS, AND SEVERAL SUGGESTIONS WERE MADE BUT IDEAS ARE STILL NOT CLEARLY FORMED AND SWISS CLAIM NO REAL CONSENSUS WAS REACHED.

6. ON PROCEDURE, NEUTRALS HOPE RULES OF PROCEDURES USED GENEVA (BLUE BOOK) CAN BE FOLLOWED. FIRST MEETING PARTICIPATION WOULD BE AT HEGNER LEVEL OR BELOW. SWISS HOPE WORK COULD BE FINISHED BY END-JUL, BUT SAID THEY AND OTHERS ENVISAGE CARRY-OVER TO EARLY FALL. AS FOR FALL MEETING, SWISS SAID IT THEIR IMPRESSION NEUTRALS HAD NOT MADE UP THEIR MINDS AS TO WHETHER LEVEL PARTICIPATION SHOULD BE CLEARLY POLITICAL OR CLEARLY NON-POLITICAL.

7. SWISS SAY THERE WAS CLEAR CONSENSUS FINAL ACT CANNOT AND SHOULD NOT BE REVISED; BUT ALL PROVISIONS (INCLUDING PRINCIPLES) COULD BE DISCUSSED. THERE SHOULD BE A WESTERN PROPOSAL IN THE MILITARY FIELD THAT GOES BEYOND WHAT HAS BEEN DISCUSSED SO FAR, TO MEET THE WARSAW PACT PROPOSAL ON RENUNCIATION OF FIRST USE OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS. SWISS ARE STILL SEEKING, AND SAY THEY HAD SUPPORT OF OTHER NEUTRALS AT VIENNA, CONFIDENTIAL

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TO EXTEND NOTIFICATION COVERAGE TO TROOP MOVEMENTS, AND TIED THIS TO EARLIER YUGOSLAV PROPOSAL ON "SELF-RESTRAINT."

8. ON BELGRADE FOLLOW-UP, OUR SOURCES SAID NEUTRALS' IDEAS STILL VERY MUCH IN FORMATIVE STAGE. SWISS FAVOR FIXING A DATE FOR A NEXT MEETING, OR SOME FORM OF PERIODICITY, BUT DO NOT FAVOR ANY INSTITUTIONAL FRAME-

WORK OTHER THAN WORKING GROUPS THAT MIGHT WORK ON VARIOUS ASPECTS OF FINAL ACT IMPLEMENTATION, E.G. ON BASKET III, ON SWISS PROPOSALS ON PEACEFUL SETTLEMENT DISPUTES, ON TROOP MOVEMENTS, OR ANY OTHER ISSUES WHICH THE BELGRADE MEETING DECIDED SHOULD BE ELABORATED FURTHER. SWISS BELIEVE THERE WILL NOT BE ENOUGH TIME AT BELGRADE TO COMPLETE DISCUSSION PROPOSALS ON ELABORATION OF THE FINAL ACT.

9. ON ROLE NEUTRALS, SWISS SAID THAT ON BASKET III THEY MIGHT COORDINATE VARIOUS INDIVIDUAL COUNTRY PROPOSALS MADE, WOULD SUPPORT EACH OTHER, BUT IN THIS AS IN OTHER AREAS WOULD PRESERVE INDEPENDENT APPROACH, AT LEAST ON SPECIFICS.

10. AS FOR SOVIET PROPOSAL ON PAN-EUROPEAN CONFERENCES, SWISS FORESEE REGIONAL CONFERENCES ON REGIONAL PROBLEMS, CITING CONFERENCE ON POLLUTION OF BALTIC AS EXAMPLE. SWISS BELIEVE WESTERN EUROPEANS SHOULD ACCEPT SOVIET PROPOSALS TO DISCUSS TRANSPORT, POLLUTION, ENERGY, OR OTHER SUBJECTS, BUT IN FRAMEWORK CHOSEN BY WE'S.
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